MARVEL COMICS

2099

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X-NATION

™

EXODUS TO DEATH

™

DIRECT EDITION

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ONCE A REFUGE FOR MUTANTKIND'S DOWN-TRODDEN MASSES, HALO CITY PROMISED A NEW LEASE ON LIFE FOR ITS GENETICALLY-GIFTED SETTLERS...

...PEOPLE LIKE THE TEENAGERS OF X-NATION, BORN WITH POWERS AND ABILITIES THAT SET THEM APART FROM THEIR FELLOW HUMANS.

OF COURSE, THAT WAS BEFORE EXODUS ARRIVED!

FINALLY!

TRASH! SHIV! GET UP, YOU FOOLS!

THAT'S ONLY HALF OF THE TORTURE YOU WILL SUFFER FOR CHALLENGING ME, "WILD BOYS".

FIRST, I WILL DRAIN YOU OF YOUR LIFE-FORCE--

AFTER TOO MANY CENTURIES OF SUPPLICATION--

--WHETHER IT BE TO THAT SURVIVALIST DOG, APOCALYPSE-- OR THE HOLY MARTYR, MAGNETO--

--I AM THE UNDISPUTED MASTER OF ALL MUTANTKIND!!

I'VE GOT SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS TO SETTLE WITH TRAITOR-BOY WULFF HERE...

...SO IF YOU'RE SMART, YOU WON'T GET IN MACK DADDY WARBIRD'S WAY!

THE BIG BOSS HAS WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THIS, LITTLE MAN.

YOU OWE HIM YOUR LIFE--

--IT'S PAYBACK TIME!!

SIC 'IM, TRASH!

YOU GOT IT, CHIEF!

I'M GONNA SHOW DIS SHOCKIN' PENCIL-NECK, PRETTY BOY DA REASON WHY FOLKS CALL ME "*TRASH*"!

LET ME GUESS, YOU MUSCLE-BOUND MORON...

URK!

...THE MASSES REFER TO YOU AS "TRASH" NOT SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IDENTIFIES THE *QUALITY* OF YOUR *GENEALOGY*--

--BUT BECAUSE *THAT'S WHERE YOU BELONG!*

IF I'M TO MAINTAIN MY CURRENT POWER LEVEL...

...I MUST FEAST UPON THE PSIONIC ENERGY OF SOMEONE MORE *POTENT* THAN THIS LUMMOX.

WARBIRD! LOOK OU-- *WHOUF!!*

KRASH

Oh, Shock-- HE K-O'd WARBIRD AND TRASH WIT'OUT EVEN BATTIN' AN EYE!

I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE, *PRONTO!* GOTTA GET BACK TO THE BOSS!

THAT IS AN ENDEAVOR EASIER SAID THAN DONE, BOY...

WHAT THE--?! EXODUS'S *VOICE-- INSIDE MY MIND?!*

DID YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE YOUR THOUGHTS COULD ESCAPE ONE WHO CAN LOOK INTO OTHER MEN'S MINDS?

PITY.

"PITY" YOURSELF, MISTER!

I MAY NOT BE AS *SMART* AS WARBIRD, OR AS *STRONG* AS TRASH--

--BUT THAT DON'T MEAN I AIN'T GOT POWERS OF MY OWN THAT'LL *KILL* YA JUST THE SAME!

KRAKK

SSSHH

SSSHH

Ah, Yes-- YOUR EVER-SO *LUMINESCENT ENERGY DAGGERS*...

FZZST FZZST

AN IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY OF FORCE TO A CALLOW MUTANT, NEWLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE GIFT NASCENT WITHIN THEM--

FZAK FZAK FZAK

--YET IT IS LITTLE MORE THAN A CLEVER *LIGHTSHOW* TO SOMEONE WHO HAS ENDURED THE RIGORS OF TIME ITSELF SUCH AS I!

SHUNK

SHUNK

SHUNK

ARRGH!

NOOO!!

NONETHELESS... A SUBSTANTIAL *PSIONIC RESERVOIR* CLEARLY COURSES THROUGH YOU--

--AND I MUST *FEED!*

Uhhnnhhnn... SOMEONE REMIND ME TO LAY OFF THE *MILK* NEXT TIME WE GO OUT PARTYING...

...Huh? WHO THE SHOCK ARE YOU?

HAVE NO FEAR, GIRL. NOW THAT I AM HERE TO *PROTECT* YOU--

--THESE DELINQUENTS WILL NEVER TROUBLE YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS EVER AGAIN!

THIS GUY'S, LIKE, A *TELEKINETIC MAGICIAN* AND A *TELEPATHIC VENTRILOQUIST!*

COOL TRICKS, DUDE!

THESE ARE NO "TRICKS", DECEMBER FROST.

HEY!! HOW DID YOU KNOW MY *LAST NAME?!*

AS I SAID-- MY POWERS ARE MUCH *MORE* THAN SIMPLE CURIOSITIES.

THEY ARE YOUR TICKETS OUT OF THIS ***GENETIC GHETTO***--

--AWAY FROM ALL THE *HATRED*-- ALL THE *DEATH*--

--AND INTO A GLORIOUS LAND OF PROMISE, THE LIKES OF WHICH YOU YOU CAN SCARCE *IMAGINE!*

JUST SAY THE WORD, AND WE WILL BEGIN OUR JOURNEY...

SHA-ZAAK

Awwright!

SHOCKIN' A!!

LET'S GO!!

LATER FOR YOU, HALO CITY!

MERE MOMENTS AFTER X-NATION DEPARTS WITH THEIR NEWFOUND PROTECTOR THROUGH A GATEWAY BORN OF EXODUS'S MUTANT ENERGY...

*...THIS DIMENSION'S **ANCIENT ONE** AND HIS HEADSTRONG YOUNG **DISCIPLE** EMERGE FROM A PORTAL OF MYSTIC ORIGIN, CREATED BY NONE OTHER THAN:*

DOCTOR STRANGE!

MAY THE *VISHANTI* GUIDE YOU...

HEY! *Waitaminute!* WHERE ARE YOU GO--

AREN'T YOU *EVER* GOING TO TELL ME *WHERE* YOU'RE SCHLEPPING ME TO, AND *WHY?*

VERY WELL, *STRANGE.*

WHERE YOU ARE-- IS HALO CITY, A HAVEN FOR MUTANTKIND ESTABLISHED BY ***DOOM*** HIMSELF.

WHY YOU ARE HERE-- IS TO RIGHT A WRONG DONE TO AN *INNOCENT SOUL.*

YEEEOW!

TALK ABOUT *BAD KARMA*--

--THIS PLACE IS SATURATED WITH SOME NASTY *MOJO!*

Well, IF I'M EVER GONNA GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS HEAD-SCRATCHER--

--THEN I'D BETTER EXPAND THE OL' CONSCIOUSNESS AND SEE WHAT I CAN SEE--

--WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THE OMNI-VISUAL *EYE OF AGAMOTTO!*

AND AS THE NOVICE SORCERESS SUPREME IS INUNDATED BY A WAVE OF PSYCHOMETRIC IMAGES AND EMOTIONS...

...THE SIGHT OF A YOUNG WOMAN DYING A BRUTAL, SENSELESS DEATH...

...THE INSATIABLE HUNGER OF HER MURDERER, HER FRESH BLOOD ON HIS HANDS...

...AND THE IMAGE OF THE VERY OBJECT THAT BROUGHT THEM TOGETH-ER IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THAT *TATTOO*... NO, IT CAN'T BE!

CHIMERA?!

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, OR WHAT YOU'RE DOING IN *THIS* CENTURY, "EXODUS"--

--BUT YOU'VE JUST MESSED WITH THE *WRONG* GIRL...

THE FORMER XAVIER SHELTER FOR INDIGENT CHILDREN.

WHERE IT WAS ONCE A HAVEN FOR YOUNG MUTANTS TO ESCAPE THE MISERY OF LIFE ON HALO CITY'S MEAN STREETS...

...IT IS ONE OF A SCARCE FEW LOCATIONS YET TO BE COMPLETELY SUBMERGED BENEATH THE RISING TIDES.

FOR THE TIME BEING.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

...WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO FIND OUT, NOSTROMO.

READY, XI'AN?

I AM SKEPTICAL ABOUT USING MY HEALING POWERS ON A CYBERNETIC ORGANISM--

--BUT I WILL DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP EASE THE BOY'S SUFFERING.

Hmmm. INTRIGUING...

NO! YOU WILL NOT ENTER THE BOY'S PSYCHE!

KRASH

WH-WHAT IS IT? WH-WHAT'S WR-WRONG?!

THERE APPEARS TO BE SOMETHING ELSE INSIDE YOUR BODY BESIDES THE TECHNO-ORGANC INFECTION.

CEREBRA-- BEGIN A TELEPATHIC SCAN OF NOSTROMO'S MIND.

WHO-- OR WHAT-- WAS THAT?!

JUST WHEN IT SEEMED THAT THE TECHNO-ORGANICALLY INFECTED CELLS WERE BEGINNING MOLECULAR REGENERATION--

--I CAUGHT THE DISTINCT SENSATION THAT NOSTROMO WAS NOT ALONE IN HIS OWN BODY!

HIS MIND, BODY AND SOUL BELONG TO US!!

SPLASH!

GLMMMPHH!

YOU CANNOT RESIST THE *ASSIMILATION.*

SOON-- ALL ORGANIC LIFE WILL BECOME ONE WITH THE *COLLECTIVE!*

ASSIMILATION?

COLLECTIVE?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT--

--BUT A LITTLE *PSI-SCAN* MIGHT SHED SOME LIGHT ON WHATEVER'S GOING ON INSIDE THAT THAT POOR BOY'S MIND.

YOUR ATTEMPTS TO TELEPATHICALLY PROBE OUR CONSCIOUSNESS ARE FUTILE--

--FOR NOW WE HAVE ACCESS TO *YOUR* MIND AS WELL!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?

YOU ARE BEING *ASSIMILATED.*

NOOO!

MY MIND... MY *CONSCIOUS-NESS...* BEING PULLED OUT OF ME!

Oh, NOSTROMO--

SPLASH

"--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?!"

MEANWHILE, ACROSS HALO CITY...

INTRIGUING.

THAT'S THE *SECOND* TIME MY SENSORS HAVE REGISTERED A *TECHNO-ORGANIC* BIO-SIGNATURE IN THE PAST FEW DAYS.

FIRST THERE WAS THAT PLANETOID ORBITING THE EARTH... AND NOW *THIS*.

I *KNOW* THERE'S A CORRELATION BETWEEN THESE TWO SEEMINGLY RANDOM OCCURRENCES--

--BUT WHAT COULD IT BE?

HE IS REED RICHARDS...

...ALSO KNOWN AS THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S ELASTIC *MISTER FANTASTIC!*

DESPITE THE FACT THAT THIS ERA IS NOT HIS OWN, HE FIGHTS TO SAVE THIS WORLD-- AND ITS *CITIZENS*-- FROM UTTER DESTRUCTION.

HELP US!

WE'RE DROWNING!

SPLOOSH

WELL, WHATEVER THE CONNECTION MAY BE, IT'S JUST GOING TO HAVE TO *WAIT!*

--TOO MANY *LIVES* ARE AT STAKE FOR ME TO GO TESTING HYPOTHESES RIGHT NOW!

EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE.

TRANSPORT SHIPS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN THE *EVACUATION* OF THE CITY--*

--SO WE SHOULD HAVE YOU OUT OF HERE AND TO DRY LAND BEFORE YOUR CLOTHES EVEN HAVE TIME TO DRY!

*CHECK OUT THE PROGRESS OF THIS MASS EXODUS IN *X-MEN 2099* #35 AND *FANTASTIC FOUR 2099* #8! --MAGIC MONKEYMAN MARK

NICE JOB PUTTING ON A BRAVE FACE FOR THESE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE, REED.

NOW IF ONLY YOU COULD CONVINCE *YOURSELF* THAT EVERYTHING WAS ALL RIGHT WITH YOUR *OWN* FAMILY.*

*SEE WHY IN THE MOST RECENT ISSUES OF *FF 2099*! --MARK

AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN...

THAT WAS... A SHOCKIN' LOOPY... RIDE, E!

I THINK... I'M GONNA... HEAVE!

FORGIVE ME-- MY POWERS AREN'T YET WHAT THEY *USED* TO BE.

EVER SINCE MY DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THAT WHELP *NATE GREY* I HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO SATIATE MY BURNING *HUNGER.* *

IF I DO NOT FEED ON A POTENT ENOUGH *PSI-SIGNATURE* SOON--

--I MAY NOT HAVE THE *STRENGTH* TO HOLD SWAY OVER THESE CHILDREN MUCH LONGER!

*IN X-MAN #14. --MARK

THERE'S SOMETHING *SKETCHY ABOUT* THIS GUY, CLARION.

OH, *PLEASE.* WHAT COULD BE SO BAD ABOUT HIM?

AFTER ALL, HE DID HOUSE THE *WILD BOYS* FOR US...

JUST BECAUSE *YOU* DON'T *TRUST* ANYONE, DOESN'T MEAN *WE* CAN'T, TWI.

I MEAN, YOU'VE GOT A REAL PROBLEM OPENIN' UP TO FOLKS THAT MIGHT CARE ABOUT YOU.

AND WHAT'S *THAT* SUPPOSED TO MEAN, KID NON-SEQUITUR?

UH... GUYS? I HATE TO INTERRUPT, BUT THIS DUDE'S BEEN SENDING ME *BAD VIBES* FROM THE GET-GO.

I THINK TWILIGHT MIGHT BE ON TO SOME-THING.

YOU *WOULD*, YOU *SYCOPHANTIC* LITTLE...

LOOK, EXODUS WAS NICE ENOUGH TO GET *US* OUT OF A JAM--

--THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS HELP *HIM* IN RETURN.

QUIT BEIN' SO *PARANOID* ALL THE TIME, GANG!

YOU DON'T LOOK TOO HOT, Mr. EXODUS. YOU OKAY?

I APPRECIATE YOUR *CONCERN*, Ms. FROST--

--FOR I AM FEELING SIGNIFICANTLY *BETTER* RIGHT NOW, THANKS TO *YOU!*

Ohhhhh...!

THAT'S IT, GIRL-- FEED ME YOUR *ESSENCE!*

YES! I CAN FEEL THE POWER COURSING THROUGH MY VEINS!

I MUST HAVE *MORE!*

WHOA...

FEEL SO... *WEAK*... ALL OF A SUDDEN...

Oh, NO! DON'T TELL ME DECEMBER'S BEEN *INFECTED*, TOO!

IF SHE IS, THEN *IT'S ALL MY FAULT!*

Well, Mr. MY-POWERS-AREN'T-WHAT-THEY-USED-TO-BE...

YOU'RE SURE LOOKIN' A HECKUVA LOT *SHARPER* THAN YOU DID A MINUTE AGO!

READY TO TAKE US TO THAT "*PROMISED LAND*" YOU KEEP FLAPPIN' YOUR GUMS ABOUT?

THERE IS MUCH POTENTIAL IN *THIS* ONE. PERHAPS I OUGHT TO DRAIN HER OF HER MUTANT ENERGY *FIRST.*

SOON, CHILD, YOU MUST HAVE *FAITH.*

"*FAITH*"?

FAITH IN *WHAT?*

FAITH IN *YOURSELVES*, BOYS-- FAITH IN THE POWER OF *HOMO SUPERIOR!*

WHY BE *SATISFIED* WITH POSSESSION OF A PIDDLY, LITTLE ISLAND LIKE HALO CITY?

MUTANTS ARE THE *NEXT STEP* IN EVOLUTION-- THE DESTINED *MASTERS* OF THIS WORLD.

OUR PATH DIVERGED FROM THAT OF THE *FLATSCANS* CENTURIES AGO, *HAYES ISAACS*--

--YOU NEED NOT CONCERN YOURSELF WITH THEM.

COME. WE MUST RESUME OUR TREK TO THE *LAST REFUGE*...

I DON'T LIKE THIS ONE *BIT*, SMITH.

HEY! SINCE WHEN DO YOU HAVE *TELE-PATHIC POWERS?*

NO TIME TO EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW. JUST TRUST ME AND STAY CLOSE.

Eh?

I SENSE THE FAINTEST TRACE OF A *PSIONIC RAPPORT* BETWEEN *TWILIGHT* AND *SMITH*--

--BUT FOR SOME REASON, I CANNOT "HEAR" THEIR THOUGHTS!

CLEVER, GIRL...

THE XAVIER SHELTER...

...WHERE AN INCREDIBLE BATTLE TAKES PLACE ON A MINDSCAPE UNLIKE ANY OTHER!

YOUR EFFORT IS *WASTED* HUMAN NOSTROMO HAS EVER BEEN--

--AND EVER SHALL BE--

--ONE OF *US!*

AND NOW THAT WE HAVE CO-OPTED YOUR CONSIOUSNESS--

--SO ARE YOU!

YEARGH!

NO!! SHE IS *NOT* ON OF YOU--

--AND NEITHER AM I!!

I'M NOT JUST A COG IN THE WHEEL OF SOME INTERGALACTIC "COL-*LECTIVE CONSCIOUS-NESS"!* I AM MY *OWN PERSON!*

FOOLISH WHELP.

YOU CAN NO SOONER DENY YOUR *TRUE NATURE*--

--THAN YOU CAN ALTER THE COURSE OF YOUR DESTINY... *SCOUT!*

NOSTROMO DID IT! HE FREED MY MIND!

BUT WHAT ABOUT *HIM!*

HELP... ME ...CEREBRA!

I'M TRYING, NOS-- BUT IS THAT REALLY STILL *YOU?*

YES, IT'S ME-- BUT YOU'VE GOT TO *HURRY!*

I CAN'T FIGHT HIM MUCH LONGER!

NOSTROMO!

Gimmmph!

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE *THIS*...

...WHOEVER-- *WHATEVER*-- THAT MONSTER INSIDE NOSTROMO IS--

-- IT'S FLOODED THE BOY'S MIND WITH *THOUSANDS*-- ALMOST ***MILLIONS*** OF OTHER PSI-SIGNATURES!

I CAN'T DISCERN NOS'S ***INDIVIDUAL*** THOUGHT PATTERNS FROM THE REST!

Oh, NOSTROMO-- I'M SO *SORRY.*

I'VE ***FAILED*** YOU...

...I'VE FAILED *ALL* OF X-NATION!*

NO! THERE'S... STILL... A... CHANCE.

*CEREBRA DOESN'T REALIZE THAT X-NATION IS STILL ALIVE.
--MARK

Eh? I DON'T BELIEVE IT--

--NOSTROMO! YOU MADE IT!

BARELY. JUST WHEN IT SEEMED LIKE MY ASSIMILATION WAS COMPLETE--

--THAT ALIEN CONSCIOUSNESS SUDDENLY ***ABANDONED*** ME.

IT SAID IT WAS GOING TO *RETURN*... IT WAS GOING TO COME FOR ME-- *SOON*-- WHEN I WAS ***READY.***

I'M ***CHANGING,*** CEREBRA. *WHY* AM I CHANGING?

I DON'T KNOW, NOS. BUT I PROMISE YOU--

--YOU'RE NOT IN THIS ***ALONE!***

ELSEWHERE...

ARE YOU *MENTAL*? PEOPLE DOWN THERE ARE *DROWNING* BY THE ***THOUSANDS!***

HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALLOUS AND CALL THIS "MAGNIFICENT"?

FOR THE SIMPLE FACT THAT THIS MARKS THE END OF HOMO SAPIEN'S DOMINATION--

--AND THE BEGINNING OF HOMO SUPERIOR'S MIGHTY REIGN!

WAITAMINUTE-- YOU HAVE ALL THIS POWER AT YOUR COMMAND--

--AND YOU'RE JUST GONNA KICK BACK AND LET AN ENTIRE PLANET OF PEOPLE ***DIE*** JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE *NOT* MUTANTS?

BEHOLD THE CONCLUSION OF AN EPOCH, MY CHILDREN...

...IS IT NOT *MAGNIFICENT?*

IF IT MEANS THE PERPETUATION OF MUTANTKIND--?

THEN, ***YES.***

WHO THE SHOCK ARE ***YOU*** TO DECIDE WHICH RACE IS BETTER THAN THE OTHER?

WHAT THE--?! *I CAN'T MOVE!*

ME *NEITHER!*

WHAT'S HE DOING TO US?!

I AM *EXODUS*, CHILDREN--

--I DO WHAT I MUST FOR THE SAKE OF *OUR PEOPLE!*

IF AN ENTIRE *SPECIES*-- AN ENTIRE *UNIVERSE*-- OF FLATSCANS NEED PERISH SO THAT OURS MAY THRIVE--

--SO *BE IT!*

YOU WERE TO BE THE SOLE HEIRS TO A GLORIOUS LEGACY THAT WOULD SHAPE T[redacted] FUTURE OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH.

BUT NOW IT IS CLEAR YOU ARE *BLIND* TO THE LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES BEFORE YOU.

AND FOR THAT, YOU MUST *SUFFER...*

YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT *SUFFERING*, PAL?

Eh? WHO--?

YOU'RE ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE A WHOLE NEW DEFINITION OF THE WORD!

COMPLIMENTS OF THE NEWEST--AND *HOTTEST*--*SORCERESS SUPREME* EVER...

...*STRANGE!*

YOUR MYSTIC ABILITIES ARE INDEED *FORMIDABLE*, WITCH--

AARGH!

--BUT WHAT YOU POSSESS [redacted] *POWER*--

--YOU SORELY LACK IN *SKILL!*

DUUUUDE-- YOU CAN'T JUST GO AROUND BEATIN' UP ON A *MEGA-BABE* LIKE THAT!!!

VERY WELL, OAF!

WHAT IF I WERE TO FOCUS MY *PSIONIC ASSAULT* ON YOU INSTEAD?

ARRRGH!

IF IT WERE MORE TO YOUR LIKING-- YEEAAAA

HEATHEN!!!! YOU DARE LAY YOUR HANDS ON ME???

WHAT GIVES--?! I CAN'T MOVE!

WILLOW--LOOK OUUUUUT!

UPROAR!! NOOOO!!

YOU *LIAR!* WE *TRUSTED* YOU.

WULFF, NO--

--WHOUUULFFF!!!

IMPUDENT CHILDREN! YOUR LACK OF *FORESIGHT* WILL COST YOU DEARLY THIS DAY!!!

IF I DON'T FLUSH THE WATER OUT OF CLARION'■ LUNGS-- *FAST*--

--HE'S A *DEAD* MAN!

I KNEW THIS GUY WAS ABOUT AS GENUINE AS A DAY IN CYBERSPACE--

BUT NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR "I-TOLD-YOU-SO'S."

C'MON, PAL--

--BREATHE!!!

-- TWILIGHT'S ABOUT TO GET HERSELF KILLED!"

ALL RIGHT, EXODUS -- THIS HAS GOT TO STOP!

:KOFF KOFF! HACK HACK!:

THANKS :KOFF: SMITH? YOU... SAVED ME?

GUESS I :HACK HACK!: OWE YA ONE, Huh?

WHAT ELSE ARE *FRIENDS* FOR? BESIDES, WE'RE GONNA NEED YOU AWAKE -- *LOOK!*

OH, SHOCK--

Ah, TWILIGHT-- *DEAR, SWEET* TWILIGHT.

AMONG ALL THE CHILDREN, YOU POSSESS THE MOST *POTENTIAL*, MY DEAR.

ALL YOU NEED DO IS ACCEPT MY HAND--

--AND WE SHALL RULE THIS WORLD, SIDE-BY-SIDE, IN THE NAME OF HOMO SUPERIOR.

YES. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...

WHAT???

DON'T DO IT, GIRL!

SORRY, BOYS--

--SHE'S WITH *ME!*

IN YOUR SHOCKIN' DREAMS I AM!

GAAAH!!

WHAT...ARE YOU...DOING TO... ME??

YOU'RE *TRAPPED*, EXO-DOOF! *NOTHING* CAN ESCAPE MY "SPHERE OF INFLUENCE"--

--NOT UNLESS I WILL IT TO!

STRAIN'S... TOO GREAT. CAN'T HOLD OUT... MUCH LONGER...

--AND NEITHER SHALL YOU!!

A THOUSAND PRISONS THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES COULD NOT CONTAIN ME, GIRL--

KRAKA-ZOW!

TWILIGHT!!!

I CAN'T FEEL HER PULSE! I-I THINK SHE'S DYING!!!

TAKE IT EASY, BRO. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO REVIVE HER--

--IF I CAN WORK *TWO SPELLS AT ONCE*, THAT IS--

--BUT YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO PROTECT US FROM EXODUS.

DONE! NOW, PLEASE-- YOU'VE GOTTA SAVE TWILIGHT!

WAM

THAT'S IT, EXODUS-- JUST KEEP BRINGING THE *NOISE* LIKE THAT--

--AND I'LL HAVE ENOUGH POWER STORED TO BRING YOU DOWN!

NO STEEL ARTIFICE IS GOING TO DENY ME, BOY!

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE!

HER *LIFE-FORCE* IS SO FAINT--

--I DON'T THINK SHE'S GONNA MAKE IT!

JUST KEEP TRYING! YOU CAN'T LET HER DIE!

WAM WAM

HURRY!!! THE DOME'S NOT GOING TO HOLD MUCH LONGER--

SMASH

--HE'S BROKEN THROUGH!

AND NOW, CHILDREN-- YOU DIE!

WRONG, EXODUS--

Eh?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S DEAD!!!

THROOM

THIS IS ALL *MY FAULT.*

IF I HADN'T BEEN DUPED BY EXODUS IN THE FIRST PLACE--

--TWILIGHT WOULDN'T BE FIGHTING FOR HER LIFE RIGHT NOW.

WELL, NOW-- AREN'T YOU THE *GALLANT* ONE, MR. ISAACS?

YOU'RE WILLING TO ***SACRIFICE*** YOUR OWN HAPPINESS FOR THE SAKE OF A LOVE THAT CAN *NEVER* BE YOURS.

HOW *TOUCHING.*

PLEASE, GOD... LET HER PULL THROUGH.

SO... CLARION LIKES TWILIGHT, BUT TWILIGHT LIKES SMITH, WHO CLARION DESPISES.

*Oh, Man... THIS IS **HEAVY!***

CLARION-- *NO!!!* GET AWAY FROM HIM!

THIS IS ***SUICIDE!!!***

ANOTHER SECOND... YOU'D'VE BEEN DEAD, TOO.

I OWED YOU ONE, SMITH. NOW WE'RE... *EVEN.*

TELL TWILIGHT-- TELL HER I ALWAYS... I *LOVED*

AARRGH!

SAY ***GOODBYE*** TO YOUR FRIENDS, BOY--

FOR YOU SHALL NEVER LAY EYES UPON THEM AGAIN!!!

MARK MY WORDS, X-NATION--

THIS IS THE DAWNING OF A *NEW ERA* FOR MUTANT-KIND.

FOR NOW THAT I AM *FREE* IN THIS TIMELINE--

--I SHALL STOP AT NOTHING TO REMAKE THE WORLD IN *MY IMAGE!*

CROSS ME AT YOUR OWN PERIL!!!

SHAZOW

IF ONLY...

SAYS YOU, SCABHEAD! YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR BACK--

--'CUZ WE'RE GONNA COME LOOKIN' FR YER SCRAWNY BUTT SOMEDAY.

I UNDERSTAND YOU GUYS ARE TAKING THE LOSS OF YOUR BUDDY REAL HARD RIGHT NOW--

--BUT THIS PLACE IS GONNA BE *DEEP-SIXED!*

AND UNLESS THE SEVEN OF US GET OUTTA HERE THIS INSTANT--*SO WILL WE!!!*

WHY, HAYES? WHY DIDN'T YOU EVER TELL ME?

IF ONLY I HAD BEEN *NICER* TO YOU...

...MAYBE WE WOULD HAVE BECOME *FRIENDS.*

IF ONLY I HAD KNOWN HOW YOU REALLY FELT ABOUT ME...

YOU ASK ME, I SAY GOOD RIDDANCE TO HALO CITY--

--AND HEL-*LO* TO THE FUTURE!!!

FOR MORE ON ***X-NATION,*** *CHECK OUT* ***FF 2099*** *#8-- ON SALE IN TWO WEEKS--AND NEXT MONTH'S DOUBLE SIZED EVENT--* ***2099: THE WORLD OF TOMORROW!***

Eh?

WHAT GIVES?!

I'M CHANGING BACK TO NORMAL!

Uh, WARBIRD?

I DON'T T'INK DAT'S SUCH A GOOD IDEA RIGHT NOW...

NO SHOCK, YOU IMBECILE!

I CAN'T CONTROL IT!!

YOU HARM THE CHILDREN OF X-NATION AT YOUR OWN PERIL, MISCREANTS--

--FOR AS THEY ARE MY FLOCK, SO I AM THEIR SHEPHERD--

--AND I HAVE SWORN TO LEAD THEM ACROSS THE TEMPESTUOUS SEAS RAVAGING THE PLANET, UNTO THE LAND FORETOLD...

... UNTO THE LAST REFUGE OF MUTANTKIND!!

AND NOW, FOR YOUR HEINOUS EFFRONTERY TO MY YOUNG CHARGES' SAFETY--

--YOU SHALL BEHOLD MY RIGHTEOUS WRATH--

--AND KNOW THE TRUE MEANING OF DESPAIR!!

Oh, MAN! THIS IS BAD! VERRRY BAD!

NOT AS BAD AS IT'S GOING TO BE FOR SCARFACE UP THERE AFTER WE TEACH HIM WHAT IT MEANS TO CROSS THE WILD BOYS!!

STAN LEE PRESENTS...

X-NATION'S FINAL HOUR!

EXODUS

BEN RAAB
STORY & SCRIPT

TERRY KAVANAGH
STORY

ERIC BATTLE
PENCILS

EDWARD McGUINNESS
MORE PENCILS

JON HOLDREDGE
INKS, INKS...

RALPH CABRERA
...AND MORE INKS

J. UL BABGINS
LETTERING

JAMES BROWN
COLORIST

MALIBU
ENHANCEMENT

MARK POWERS
MAN OF TOMORROW

BOB HARRAS
PROUD PAPPY

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